

CLAIMS

I claim:

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D9~~ A tee baffle comprising:
an elongated generally cylindrical main body portion
5 defining a tubular opening;
a cylindrical uppermost hub coaxial with said elongated main body portion and having an inner diameter greater than said diameter of the elongated main body portion;
an inlet/outlet port;
10 a first rib extending generally longitudinally along said elongated main body portion; and
a second rib extending generally longitudinally along said elongated main body portion.

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Sub~~ 15 2. The tee of claim 1, wherein said first and second ribs extend outwardly from an outer wall of the elongated main body portion and said uppermost hub.

3. The tee of claim 2, further including seams coextending
20 with said first and second ribs.

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D9~~ 4. The tee of claim 1, further including a sweep portion
arcing upwardly from said elongated main body portion toward
a ring defining an outlet opening, said sweep portion
25 defining an opening in communication with said tubular opening and said outlet opening.

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5. The tee of claim 3, further comprising at least one horizontal reinforcement rib on said outer wall of the elongated main body portion.

5 6. The tee of claim 1, in combination with a reducer bushing securely received in said inlet/outlet port.

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A tee for use at the inlet or outlet of a septic tank, said tee comprising:

10 a generally L-shaped first mating half having
an elongated main body portion that is generally
U-shaped in cross-section,
a lowermost end integral with said elongated main
body portion, said lowermost end having a smaller radius
15 than the elongated main body portion,
a half-ring shaped upper lid-receiving end having
a larger radius than said elongated main body portion,
a sweeping extension integral with said elongated
main body portion and terminating at a half-ring shaped
20 inlet/outlet,
a first mating edge running lengthwise along said
lowermost end, said elongated main body portion, and said
upper lid-receiving end, said first mating edge being
located opposite said sweeping extension,
25 a second mating edge running along said lowermost
end, said elongated main body portion, an underside of said

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sweeping extension portion, and a bottom of said half-ring shaped inlet/outlet,

5 a third mating edge running along said upper lid-receiving end, an upper side of said sweeping extension portion, and a top of said half-ring shaped outlet,

10 a generally r-shaped second mating half complementing the generally r-shaped first mating half, said generally r-shaped second mating half having

15 an elongated main body portion that is generally U-shaped in cross-section,

20 a lowermost end integral with said elongated main body portion, said lowermost end having a smaller radius than the elongated main body portion,

25 a half-ring shaped upper lid-receiving end having a larger radius than said elongated main body portion,

30 a sweeping extension integral with said elongated main body portion and terminating at a half-ring shaped inlet/outlet,

35 a fourth mating edge running lengthwise along said lowermost end, said elongated main body portion, and said upper lid-receiving end, said fourth mating edge being located opposite said sweeping extension,

40 a fifth mating edge running along said lowermost end, said elongated main body portion, an underside of said sweeping extension portion, and a bottom of said half-ring shaped inlet/outlet, and

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cont

a sixth mating edge running along said upper lid-receiving end, an upper side of said sweeping extension portion, and a top of said half-ring shaped inlet/outlet.

5 8. The tee of claim 7, further comprising:

a first groove extending along a substantial portion of said first mating edge;

a second groove extending along a substantial portion of said second mating edge;

10 a third groove extending along a substantial portion of said third mating edge;

a first tongue projecting perpendicularly from said fourth mating surface and extending along a substantial portion of the fourth mating surface, said first tongue being received in said first groove;

a second tongue projecting perpendicularly from said fifth mating surface and extending along a substantial portion of said fifth mating surface, said second tongue being received in said second groove; and

20 a third tongue projecting perpendicularly from said sixth mating surface and extending along a substantial portion of said sixth mating surface, said third tongue being received in said third groove.

25 9. The tee of claim 8, wherein each of said mating edges includes:

a flat flange extending outwardly of each of said grooves and tongues, said flat flange providing a bonding surface to reinforce securement of said generally r-shaped first and second mating halves.

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10 ~~10~~ ~~the sanitary tee of claim 7, in combination with an effluent filter having a generally cylindrical profile, said effluent filter having a lid received in said upper lid-receiving ends.~~

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11 ~~11~~ ~~The combination of claim 10, wherein said effluent filter includes a sealing gasket engaged with an inner wall of said lowermost ends of the sanitary tee, and wherein said inner wall of the lowermost ends of the sanitary tee include elements having locking rims to engage an outermost lip of said sealing gasket.~~

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12. ~~The combination of claim 10, wherein at least one of said half-ring shaped upper lid-receiving ends further includes an inwardly directed locking flange, said at least one locking flange being spaced a distance of at least a thickness of said lid of the effluent filter, and the lid of the effluent filter including a complementary recess to allow for insertion of said lid past said locking flange, whereby upon rotation of the effluent filter subsequent to insertion past the locking flange, said recess is out of~~

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alignment with said locking flange, and said locking flange prevents vertical movement of said effluent filter.

13. The combination of claim 10, in further combination
5 with a length of schedule 40 pipe received in said
inlet/outlet opening.

14. The sanitary tee of claim 7, in combination with a
10 length of pipe received in said inlet/outlet opening.

15. A one-piece sanitary tee baffle comprising:
an elongated generally cylindrical main body portion
defining a tubular opening;
15 a cylindrical uppermost hub coaxial with said elongated
main body portion and having an inner diameter greater than
said diameter of the elongated main body portion;
an inlet/outlet port;
a first rib extending generally longitudinally along
20 said elongated main body portion; and
a second rib extending generally longitudinally along
said elongated main body portion, said elongated generally
cylindrical main body portion having a wall thickness
between 0.075" and 0.100" over a substantial portion
25 thereof, most preferably about 0.090".

16. The one-piece sanitary tee baffle of claim 15, in combination with an effluent filter received in the tubular opening thereof.

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17. The one-piece sanitary tee baffle of claim 15, in combination with a length of pipe received in said inlet/outlet port.

10 18. The combination of claim 17, further comprising a reducer bushing between said inlet/outlet port and said length of pipe received therein.

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